

BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING

P.O. Box 944210, Sacramento, CA 94244-2100

P (916) 322-3350 | www.rn.ca.gov

Ruth Ann Terry, MPH, RN, Executive Officer



Residential Care for the Elderly Employee Training for Self-Administration of Medication

Registered Nurse Providing Training

Legislation enacted 2005-2006 Session

Effective January 1, 2008 AB 2609 (Evans) Chapter 615, Section 1. Section 1569.69 is added to the Health and Safety Code:

1569.69. (a) Each residential care facility for the elderly licensed under this chapter shall ensure that each employee of the facility who assists residents with the self-administration of medication meets the following training requirements:

(1) In facilities licensed to provide care for 16 or more persons, the employee shall complete 16 hours of training. This training shall consist of eight hours of hands-on shadowing training, which shall be completed prior to assisting with self-administration of medications and eight hours of other training or instruction, as described below, which shall be completed within the first two weeks of employment

(2) In facilities licensed to provide care for 15 or fewer persons, the employee shall have completed six hours of initial training. This training shall consist of two hours of hands-on shadowing training, which shall be completed prior to assisting with self-administration of medications, and four hours of other training and instruction as described below, which shall be completed within first two weeks of employment.

(3) An employee shall be required to complete the training requirements for hands-on shadowing training prior to assisting any resident in the self-administration of medication. The training and instruction described below shall be completed, in it entirely, within the first two weeks of employment.

(4) The training shall cover all of the following areas:

(A) The role, responsibilities, and limitations of staff who assist residents with the self-administration of medication, including tasks limited to licensed medical professionals.

(B) An explanation of the terminology specific to medication assistance.

(C) An explanation of the different types of medication orders: prescription, over-the-counter, controlled, and other medication.

(D) An explanation of the basic rules and precautions of medication assistance.

(E) Information on medication forms and routes of medication taken by residents.

(F) A description of procedures for providing assistance with the self-administration of medication in and out of the facility, and information n the medication documentation system used in the facility.

(G) An explanation of guidelines for the proper storage, security, and documentation of centrally stored medications.

(H) A description of the processes used for medication ordering, refills, and the receipt of medication from the pharmacy.

(I) An explanation of medication side effects, adverse reactions, and errors.

(5) To complete the training requirements each employee shall pass an examination that tests the employee's comprehension of, and competency in, the subject listed.

(6) Residential care facilities for the elderly shall encourage pharmacists and licensed medical professionals to use plain English when preparing labels on medication supplied to residents. As used in this section, "plain English" means no abbreviations, symbols or Latin medical terms shall be used in the instructions for the self-administration of medication.

(7) The training requirements of this section are not intended to replace or supplant those required of all staff members who assist residents with personal activities of daily living as set forth in Section 1569.625.

(8) The training requirements shall be repeated if either of the following occur:

(A) An employee returns to work for the same licensee after a break of service of more than 180 consecutive days

(B) An employee goes to work for another licensee in a facility in which he or she assists residents with self-administration of medication.

(b) Each employee who receives training and passed the exam and who continues to assist with the self-administration of medication, shall also complete four hours of in-service training on medication-related issues in each succeeding 12-month period.

(c) The requirements set forth in the law do not apply to persons who are licensed medical professionals.

(d) Each residential care facility for the elderly that provides employee training under this section shall use the training material and the accompanying examination that are developed by, or in consultation with,, a licensed nurse, pharmacist, or physician. The licensed residential care facility for the elderly shall maintain the following documentation for each medical consultant used to develop the training:

(1) The name, address, and telephone number of the consultant.

(2) The date when the consultation was provided.

(3) The consultant's organization affiliation, if any and any educational and professional qualifications specific to medication management.

(4) The training topics for which consultation was provided.